

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West



Lahontan Powerplant – Photo Credit: Winetta Owens

The Lahontan Powerplant part of the Newlands Project, located immediately below Lahontan Dam, contains three generators with a combined capacity of 1,920 kilowatts and facilities to use water from either Lahontan Reservoir or the Truckee Canal.

The plant was completed in 1911. The design of the powerplant took advantage of the more than 100 foot fall of the Truckee Canal into the Carson River. A 1,128-foot long, 72-inch diameter steel pipe runs through the left outlet conduit from the base of the intake tower, under the left spillway and onto the powerhouse. A 66-inch fixed-cone valve bypasses flows into the spillway pool when power operations are suspended.

The Newlands Project, formerly the Truckee-Carson Project, was one of the first Reclamation projects. Construction began in 1903. It provides full service irrigation water from the Truckee and Carson Rivers for about 55,000 acres of cropland in the Lahontan Valley near Fallon and bench lands near Fernley in western Nevada. In addition, water from about 6,000 acres of project land has been transferred to the Lahontan Valley wetlands near Fallon. The drainage basins contain nearly 3,400 square miles with a combined average annual runoff of about 850,000 acre-feet of water.

For more information on Lahontan Powerplant, please visit:

<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/lbao/index.html>

http://www.usbr.gov/mp/lbao/water_projects.html#newlands

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